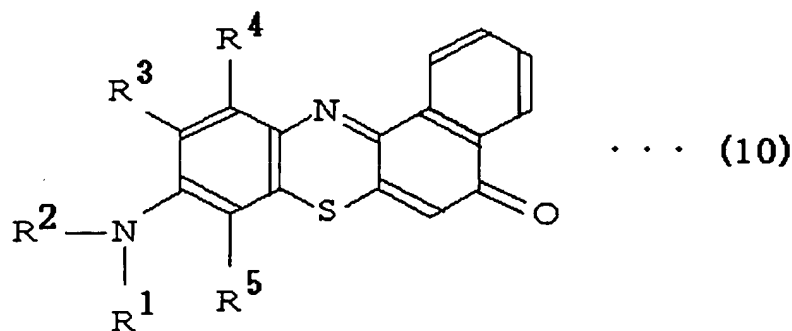


**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS, COMPLETE LISTING OF CLAIMS IN
ASCENDING ORDER WITH STATUS INDICATOR**

Please amend the claims as follows.

Claims 1-5 (Canceled).

6. (Currently Amended) A Nile red luminescent compound emitting red light that has a structure represented by formula (10):



wherein ~~R¹ is hydrogen atom or an alkyl group, or forms -CH₂CH₂-CR⁶R⁷-~~ together with R³ (wherein the carbon atom of -CR⁶R⁷- moiety is bound to the benzene moiety of the formula (10), each of R⁶ and R⁷ is hydrogen atom or an alkyl group, and R⁶ and R⁷ may be the same or different from each other); ~~R² is hydrogen atom or an alkyl group, or forms -CH₂CH₂-CR⁸R⁹-~~ together with R⁵ (wherein the carbon atom of -CR⁸R⁹- moiety is bound to the benzene moiety of the formula (10), each of R⁸ and R⁹ is hydrogen atom or an alkyl group, and R⁸ and R⁹ may be the same or different from each other); ~~R³ is hydrogen atom,~~ forms -CH₂CH₂-CR⁶R⁷- with R¹, or forms with R⁴ a naphthalene ring including as a part thereof the benzene moiety of the formula (10); ~~R⁴ is hydrogen atom,~~ or forms with R³ a naphthalene ring including as a part thereof the benzene moiety of the formula (10); and ~~R⁵ is hydrogen atom, or forms -CH₂CH₂-CR⁸R⁹- with R²,~~ wherein at least one of R¹ and R² is not ethyl group, or at least one of R³, R⁴ and R⁵ is not a hydrogen atom.

7. (Canceled).